

The mare was sold or traded off and was taken to Missouri. We never could get any trace of her after that.

Yours truly,

A. V. BROOKING,

MACOMB, Ill., February 21, 1885.
Editor Register—I do not know of any Chick-

amauna stallion now living.

A. V. BROOKING.

Household Topics.

CARVING.

To carve well is an accomplishment every lady and gentleman should strive to acquire, for it is not only a graceful one but is a source of economy; a saving of time and food, because when thoroughly understood no time need be wasted in awkward attempts to find the joints, and the meat neatly and skillfully carved can all be used, while if torn and badly cut much will be unfit in appearance to serve.

It is not difficult to learn to carve well. Attention to the proper mode, and patience in the efforts to learn, are all that is necessary to acquire a thorough knowledge of the art. Perfect ease in handling the knife and joint is of the first importance, as all exertion is very much out of place, showing great want of skill on the part of the carver, or extreme toughness of the meat.

A good knife is necessary to enable one to do the work with dexterity. A long, thin blade, well sharpened, should be used for large joints, ham or turkey; a short, narrow, sharp-pointed one for chicken or small game. The position in carving is a question open to dispute. Some authorities say it should always be done sitting, while others maintain that personal convenience should be consulted. A well-known writer on table manners says on the subject: "It is laid down as a rule by many that one must not stand up when carving. If a person is tall, or the chair is quite high, there is no doubt that it may be a more graceful, quiet way to keep the seat while carving, especially when that which is to be served is small, requiring very little skill. But when there is a large piece of beef, mutton or ham, it is certainly easier, and, to our eye, more graceful, to carve standing. This is one of the cases where, if fashion and common sense come in collision, we think the latter will conquer."

The dish, which should always be of good size, must be placed so near the carver as to give him or her full control of it. Fowls should be placed breast up. Put the fork into the breast and take off the wings and legs first without turning the fowl, then cut out the breast bone, so as to leave the well-browned skin over it, as also the white meat. Then cut off the side bones and divide the carcass which is left in two, from the neck down, leaving the rump on one part to be served in a separate portion. Then remove the second joint from the leg and the wing, as they are much more easily managed on the plate when thus thoroughly dissected.

A sirloin of beef should be placed on the dish with the tenderloin underneath. Thin cut slices should be taken from the side next the carver, then turn over the roast and carve the tenderloin. A portion of both should be helped. Be careful to cut across the grain of the meat.

A leg of mutton should be carved across the middle of the bone first, and then from the thickest part until the gristle is reached. A few nice slices can be cut from the smaller end, but it is generally hard and stringy.

A ham can be carved in several ways. By cutting long, delicate slices through the thick fat down to the bone; by running the point of the knife in a circle in the middle, and cutting, thin, circular slices, thus keeping the ham moist; or by beginning at the knuckle and slicing upward. The last mode is considered the most economical.

Tongue—a tongue should be carved in very thin, delicate slices, its delicacy depending very greatly upon attention to this. The slices from the center are considered the most tempting, and should be cut across and the slices taken from each side with a portion of the fat which is at the root.

A loin of veal—Begin at the small end and cut the ribs apart. Cut off a piece of the kidney with the fat and help each plate to some.

A fillet of veal should be cut first from the top, and in a breast of veal the breast and brisket should be separated and then cut in pieces.

Roast pig should have the head removed before coming to the table. Cut off the legs, joint at the knee and divide the ribs.

A leg of venison must be cut deep down to the bone that the juice may run free, then large, thin slices should be cut from the broad end.

A saddle of venison—cut thin, even slices from the tail towards the upper part on each side. Venison should always be served hot, on well-warmed plates.

Loins of veal, mutton or vension should always be jointed by the butcher before cooking, and then they are readily carved.

Fish—in carving fish some practice is needed in order to prevent the flakes from breaking.

In carving salmon a portion of the back and belly should be served to each person. The choicest morsels of all large fish are near the head; then the thin parts come next; the flavor of the part nearest the bone is never equal to those on the upper part. In serving shad or mackerel a part of the roe should be put on each plate. The fins of the turbot are considered a delicacy. Fish is usually placed on a dish under part uppermost,

as there lies the best part. In carving fish a fish knife should be used, and if handled with lightness of touch and dexterity the person using it will find very little trouble in carving it.—*Eliza R. Parker in Good Housekeeping.*

BEDCLOTHING.

In regard to bedclothing, of course, nothing should be used save what can be, when needed, thoroughly cleansed. This will restrict us largely to blankets, counterpanes and the old-fashioned bed-quilt. A comforter may be at hand for the exigency of a zero temperature, to be thrown upon the outside of the bed, but never placed beneath the other coverings. Comforters in constant use should be avoided, and carefully protected at the top by neat covering of some fadeless material. All who have used comforters know that they are easily soiled where they come into contact with the breath of the sleeper. Blankets, which should form the staple of our winter bedding, should be changed at least once during the colder months, that is, the pair next the upper sheet. Blankets may be kept pure and sweet by being taken to the open door weekly, thoroughly shaken, and occasionally, on a fine, sunny, breezy day, carefully plumed to the clothes-line and allowed the regenerating effect of sun and wind.

Pillows and bolsters, like mattresses, should be carefully protected by an extra casing of heavy cotton cloth. Every housewife of years knows that her pillows have become yellow and time-stained, so that she feels a delicacy in exposing them to public view, even for a much-needed airing and sunning. The old-fashioned nightcap has, luckily for the head, gone into disuse, but not so luckily for the cleanliness of the pillow-case and tick. A second covering, to be removed and washed when necessary, would furnish the protection and also prevent the escape of the much dreaded down of the sleeping-room where feather pillows are used. Pillows are portable and protected from absorption by three firm coverings, and daily subjected to the disintegrating agencies of air and sunshine, may be kept healthy and pure, inviting and insuring a sweater and sounder slumber, a pillow, indeed, of repose for the weary head.—*Good Housekeeping.*

Sheep Interest.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET.

(Boston Journal of Feb. 19.)

The business of the week indicates no important change. There is a steady but moderate demand from manufacturers and prices remain as steady and firm as previously noticed. The sales of the week have been the smallest for a long time, but the recent floods have evidently kept manufacturers at their mills, and wool for the time being has been neglected. We see no reason for any change in prices at present. Stocks are quite moderate for the season and manufacturers are doing a very satisfactory business now, with every indication that it will continue throughout the year. The prospects of the trade, in fact, were seldom better, both for wool and woollens. The sales of the week have been 1,348,300 pounds of all kinds. The scarcity of choice mediums is turning more attention to X and XX fleeces, and it is found that desirable fine wools are not plenty. There has been no year for some years when all grades were so equally sold up. The stock of fine wools is smaller than many suppose, and were it not for the large importations of Australia and Montevideo fine wools would be as scarce as any record of.

LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

Portland, Me., Feb. 9.

UNENDORSED BY THE SIGNAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of the Boston Journal: I have read with interest in *The Journal* of the 6th inst. the question of your correspondent and your reply on this subject. Can you spare me room for a few words on this question? Of course there are many exceptional cases, but as a general fact, is it ever too cold to snow, and when it seems to be, what is the cause?

I—Is it ever too cold to snow? The experiences of Lieut. Greely and of Dr. Kane, in high northern latitudes, the testimony of Du Chaillu in his travels in Scandinavia and the reports that come to us from the far Northwest, Dakota and Montana—not to refer to others—leaves no ground to question that heavy snow storms are common with the temperature from 10° to 40° below zero in some latitudes. How is it in New England, with a temperature near zero? Commonly, though threatening, it does not snow heavily when it is so cold; and hence the saying that it cannot. Yet, I have known not a few instances of deep snow when the thermometer stood near zero.

2—Why do we not have much snow in such circumstances? Because we are on the extreme northern edge of the storm, outside the line of heavy precipitation. That line is then south of us. The extreme skirt of the cloud is over us; the severe northwest wind, not far off, mingling with the northeast wind, giving us the raw and piercing northern blast; a little snow perhaps falls, but only a little. Let the storm cloud come up higher from the South and West, bringing as it always does a higher temperature, and we have more snow, perhaps a heavy storm—not because it is milder, but because the storm which threatened has now fully reached us—interposing itself more fully between us and the northwest wind, and bringing us more within the circle of the revolving storm, when the temperature is higher.

Some 60 years ago the fact was not known that these easterly storms revolve—being in fact vast progressive whirlwinds, from 300 to 500 miles in diameter, often sweeping over the broad continent—with rain on their southern side and severely cold with heavy snow on the north. It is this fact which gives us less intensity of cold as the storm creeps, with its copious precipitation, comes nearer to us. A line drawn across the diameter of a winter storm would often have its northern point in a very low temperature, passing through heavy falls of snow and reaching down South into a warm rain over the Gulf Stream.

ALFRED E. IVES.

The business in unwashed wools has been of a very limited character, comprising for the week only 180,000 pounds. Stocks are very much reduced, and desirable lots of both fine and medium grades are scarce and difficult to find. The sales of Territory have been 70,000 pounds, of which 60,000 pounds were at 20 to 25 cents and 10,000 pounds at 17 to 19 cents per pound. In Oregon wool the sales have been 30,000 pounds on private terms. In unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces there have been sales of 80,000 pounds, of which 15,000 pounds were at 21 to 25 cents and 65,000 pounds at 20 to 25 cents per pound.

TOO COLD TO SNOW.

DOESN'T GIVE TEMPERATURE JUST PRECEDING.

To the Editor of the Boston Journal:

In connection with your article on "Too Cold to Snow," perhaps the following list of cold storms may be of interest. I think it shows the above saying to be wrong—at least as generally used—and that we seldom have it too cold to snow. Allow me to add that in the majority of our snow storms for the past twenty years the mercury has not been higher than 15 or 20°:

Jan. 17, 1857. We had a "tremendous fall of snow," with mercury about zero, all through the storm. Known now as the "Great Storm of '57." It was almost impossible to face the gale and driving snow after six p. m. People got confused on the street and couldn't tell where they were. Some 24 of our business men stopped at the United States Hotel that night instead of going home. A friend of the writer froze his ears and all his fingers going into a third of a mile. The roads leading into the city were blocked for two days.

March 2, 1868. Snowed all day and till next afternoon; mercury 20° at noon.

Jan. 24, 1871. Snowed all afternoon and evening; mercury 6° below at 7 a. m. and 32° below all day.

Jan. 29, 1871. Four inches came; mercury 12° below.

Dec. 26, 1872. Ten inches; mercury 12° below to 22° above (2 ft reported in Boston).

Jan. 26, 1873. Four inches; mercury 12° above.

Jan. 27, 1874. Snowed all day; mercury 22° below to 12° above.

Jan. 31, 1874. Six inches; 5° below to 32° above.

Feb. 3, 1874. Over a foot fell; mercury 12° to 12°.

Dec. 18, 1876. Fifteen inches; mercury 12° below to 12° above.

Jan. 16, 1878. Eight inches; mercury 22° to 12°.

Dec. 22, 1879. Snowed fast all day—made good sleighing; 6° below to 32° below.

Dec. 31, 1879. Four inches; 12° below all through the storm (32° below at 7 a. m.)

Feb. 3, 1880. Over a foot; mercury 10° to 12°.

Feb. 5, 1882. The worst storm since '57 set in at 10 p. m. Feb. 4, and raged till 5 p. m. Feb. 4; 17 inches fell according to the signal service; mercury 12° at 7 a. m. n. m.

Jan. 10, 1884. Snowed all day; mercury 12° at noon.

Dec. 21, 1884. Very heavy snow storm; mercury 12° to 10°.

Dec. 21, 1884. Snowed fast all day; made good sleighing; zero to 5° above.

Jan. 28, 1885. Showed all day; 10 inches came; mercury 12° below at 7 a. m. and 7° below at noon (the coldest at noon I have any record of).

W. LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

Portland, Me., Feb. 9.

STATE OF VERMONT—District of Addison, ss.

The probate court for the district of Addison.

To all persons interested in the estate of NICHOLAS PHELPS, late of Brattleboro, in said District.

By the authority of the State of Vermont, you are hereby notified to appear before the Probate Court at the Probate Office in Middlebury, in said District, on the 15th day of March A. D. 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., to state, if any, why the account of A. Fletcher, administrator of the estate of said deceased, should not be allowed, and also why the residue of said estate should not be distributed to the parties entitled thereto.

Dated at Middlebury, in said District, this 1st day of February, A. D. 1886.

LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

STATE OF VERMONT—District of Addison, ss.

The probate court for the District of Addison.

To all persons interested in the estate of SETH HOLMAN, late of Salisbury, in said District.

By the authority of the State of Vermont, you are hereby notified to appear before the Probate Court at the Probate office in Middlebury, in said District, on the 20th day of March A. D. 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., to show cause, if any, why the account of N. A. Gibbs, administrator of the estate of said deceased, should not be allowed, and also why the residue of said estate should not be distributed to the parties entitled thereto.

Dated at Middlebury, in said District, this 1st day of February, A. D. 1886.

LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

STATE OF VERMONT—District of Addison, ss.

The probate court for the District of Addison.

To all persons interested in the estate of JAMES M. COOPER, late of Middlebury, in said District.

By the authority of the State of Vermont, you are hereby notified to appear before the Probate Court at the Probate office in Middlebury, in said District, on the 15th day of March A. D. 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., to show cause, if any, why the account of H. C. Cooper, administrator of the estate of said deceased, should not be allowed, and also why the residue of said estate should not be distributed to the parties entitled thereto.

Dated at Middlebury, in said District, this 1st day of February, A. D. 1886.

LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

STATE OF VERMONT—District of Addison, ss.

The probate court for the District of Addison.

To all persons interested in the estate of ROBERT L. COOPER, late of Middlebury, in said District.

By the authority of the State of Vermont, you are hereby notified to appear before the Probate Court at the Probate office in Middlebury, in said District, on the 15th day of March A. D. 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., to show cause, if any, why the account of H. C. Cooper, administrator of the estate of said deceased, should not be allowed, and also why the residue of said estate should not be distributed to the parties entitled thereto.

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